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 ACTION AF-01

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| INFO | LOG-00 | AID-01 | CIAE-00 | C-01 | OASY-00 | DODE-00 | DOEE-00 |
| | DS-00 | EB-01 | EUR-01 | HA-09 | H-01 | TEDE-00 | INR-00 |
| | IO-16 | LAB-01 | L-01 | ADS-00 | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 | OIC-02 |
| | OMB-01 | PA-01 | PM-01 | PRS-01 | P-01 | SCT-03 | SNP-00 |
| | SP-00 | SR-00 | SS-00 | STR-01 | TRSE-00 | T-00 | USIE-00 |
| | ASDS-01 | RPE-01 | PMB-00 | /046W | | | |
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P 311530Z MAR 94
 FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6103
 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY
 USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ4-SAA// PRIORITY
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KIGALI 01423.

STATE FOR AF/C AND DSS/OP/AF
 BUJUMBURA FOR RSO
 YAOUNDE FOR DAO

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 E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
 TAGS: PINS, ASEC, PHUM, PGOV, RW
 SUBJECT: KILLINGS JEOPARDIZE SOLUTION TO
 POLITICAL IMPASSE

REFS: (A) KIGALI 1335, (B) KIGALI 1081

1. (LOU) SUMMARY. A 3/30 EXCHANGE OF KILLINGS WITH
 POLITICAL AND ETHNIC OVERTONES JEOPARDIZES EFFORTS TO

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L. MILLS
 DATE/CASE ID: 20 NOV 2002 200003723

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RESOLVE POLITICAL IMPASSE TO INSTALLING TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS BY WEEK'S END AND INCREASES RISK OF RENEWED VIOLENCE. THE KILLINGS INVOLVED A YOUTH LEADER OF THE CDR, THE PARTY WHOSE CLAIM FOR A SEAT IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS AT THE HEART OF THE LATEST POLITICAL IMPASSE. THE CDR BLAMES THE RPF FOR THE KILLING. END SUMMARY.

CDR YOUTH LEADER KILLED

2. (U) CDR COUNSELOR, JEAN BOSCO BARAYAGWIZA, TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR ABOUT 10:30 PM EVENING OF 3/30 TO SAY THAT CDR YOUTH LEADER INGABIRE KATUMBA HAD BEEN SHOT TO DEATH OUTSIDE HIS HOME. GRENADES WERE ALSO REPORTEDLY INVOLVED IN THE ATTACK. HE SAID HE HAD ALREADY ALERTED THE GENDARMERIE AND THE UN FORCES (UNAMIR).

3. (C) BARAYAGWIZA INSTINCTIVELY BLAMED PATRIOTIC FRONT FOR THE ASSASSINATION. AMBASSADOR SPENT AN HOUR TRYING TO CONVINCE HIM THAT THE FRONT WAS NOT NECESSARILY THE ENEMY, THAT HE SHOULD LEAVE THE CONFIDENTIAL

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MATTER IN THE HANDS OF THE LAW AND KEEP HIS PEOPLE FROM DEMONSTRATIONS AND REPRISALS. ASKED HOW HE KNEW THE KILLERS WERE RPF, BARAYAGWIZA SAID THAT IT WAS A MATTER OF LOGIC. HE FEARED HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO KEEP HIS PEOPLE FROM RETALIATING.

4. (U) LATER IN THE NIGHT, KATUMBA'S BUDDIES LAUNCHED A REPRISAL ATTACK ON NEIGHBORS WITH WHOM KATUMBA HAD PREVIOUSLY QUARRELED. THE VICTIMS WERE REPORTEDLY TUTSIS; THERE IS AT LEAST ONE CONFIRMED DEAD.

THE UN RESPONDS TO THE KATUMBA MURDER

5. (C) KIGALI SECTOR COMMANDER COL. MARCAL TOLD ECONOFF THAT UNAMIR WAS CALLED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE MURDER OF KATUMBA. A UNAMIR PATROL INVESTIGATED AND REPORTED THAT GENDARMES WERE AT THE SCENE CORDONING OFF THE AREA WHEN THE PATROL ARRIVED. THE PATROL REPORTED THAT LOCAL AREA RESIDENTS SHOWED SOME

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HOSTILITY TOWARD THE GENDARMES AS THEY BEGAN COLLECTING INFORMATION. IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING, UNAMIR RECEIVED REPORTS OF ATTACKS ON TUTSIS IN THE NYAMIRAMBO AREA (NEAR KATUMBA'S RESIDENCE) AND PATROLS WENT TO INVESTIGATE. COL. MARCAL HAD NOT YET RECEIVED REPORTS FROM THESE PATROLS.

6. (LOU) BOTH THE GENDARMES AND UNAMIR INCREASED THE NUMBER OF MEN AND PATROLS IN THE NYAMIRAMBO AND GIKONDO SECTIONS OF KIGALI MORNING 3/31 WITH REPORTS THAT LOCAL AREA RESIDENTS MIGHT TRY TO SET UP ROAD

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PAGE 04 KIGALI 01423 01 OF 02 311536Z BLOCKS. COL. MARCAL SAID THAT HE HOPED THE HEIGHTENED PRESENCE OF UNAMIR PATROLS IN THESE TWO TROUBLED NEIGHBORHOODS WOULD PREVENT A REPEAT OF THE VIOLENCE THEY HAD EXPERIENCED IN FEBRUARY.

A ROTTEN EGG

7. (C) KATUMBA, A DRIVER FOR THE HOSPITAL NOW BEING USED BY UNAMIR, HAD A FAR-FLUNG REPUTATION FOR BEING A CDR THUG. HE WAS REPORTEDLY AT THE FRONT OF MANY CDR DEMONSTRATIONS AND WAS PRESUMED TO HAVE KILLED MANY PERSONS. ONE SOURCE SAID HE WAS HEARD BRAGGING IN A KIGALI BAR ABOUT HAVING KILLED TUTSIS IN GISENYI DURING THE MASSACRES IN JANUARY 1993.

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P 311530Z MAR 94
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6104
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ4-SAA// PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 KIGALI 01423

STATE FOR AF/C AND DSS/OP/AP
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TAGS: PINS, ASEC, PHUM, PGOV, RW
SUBJECT: KILLINGS JEOPARDIZE SOLUTION TO

LAST YEAR HE WAS ACQUITTED OF A MURDER FOR LACK OF EVIDENCE. COMMON BELIEF AT THE TIME WAS THAT HE COMMITTED THE CRIME BUT WAS BEING PROTECTED BY THE JUDGE. ACCORDING TO THE EMBASSY GUARD CONTRACTOR, KATUMBA IS THE PERSON WHO SPIT IN THE FACE OF A BLACK PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER LAST YEAR, ACCUSING HER OF BEING A TUTSI. IN A BAR INCIDENT TWO WEEKS AGO, KATUMBA REPORTEDLY SLASHED A HUTU WITH A BEER BOTTLE, ACCUSING HIM OF BEING A TUTSI. TWO SOURCES INDICATED TO DCM THAT THE HUTU AND HIS FRIENDS DECLINED TO MAKE A FORMAL COMPLAINT, SAYING THEY WOULD GET EVEN IN THEIR OWN WAY. IN THE WORDS OF ONE CONTACT, KATUMBA HAD THOUSANDS OF ENEMIES; ANYONE COULD HAVE KILLED HIM.

TENSIONS MOUNT

8. (LOU) SOME LOCAL EMPLOYEES SPENT LUNCH HOUR AT

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THE OFFICE, FEARING POSSIBLE ROAD BLOCKS EN ROUTE TO NYAMIRAMBO. SEVERAL LEFT THE OFFICE EARLY AS TAXIS HAVE CEASED TO FUNCTION. NEVERTHELESS, UNAMIR REPORTS NO PROBLEMS AROUND TOWN. AN AMERICAN EMPLOYEE REPORTS THAT PEOPLE CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE FREELY IN NYAMIRAMBO AS OF LATE AFTERNOON. ANOTHER EMPLOYEE HEARD A RADIO APPEAL FROM THE CDR TO ITS PARTISANS URGING THEM TO REMAIN CALM.

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COMMENT

9. (C) THIS CDR DEATH COULDN'T HAVE COME AT A WORSE TIME. THE PRESIDENCY PREDICTED ON 3/30 THAT THE INSTITUTIONS MIGHT BE INSTALLED BEFORE THE END OF THE WEEK. THESE HOPES ARE PROBABLY IN JEOPARDY AS A RESULT OF THIS EXCHANGE OF VENGEANCE KILLINGS. SO FAR, THOUGH, DESPITE SOME REPRISAL KILLINGS AND RISING TENSIONS, KIGALI APPEARS QUIET. EMBASSY USED THE WARDEN SYSTEM AT NOON TO ALERT THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY TO THE KILLING AND ADVISE THEM TO REMAIN ALERT TO POTENTIAL STREET DEMONSTRATIONS OR VIOLENCE.

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